

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin, Incorporating the State Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems, Changing the Nitrate Water Quality Objective for Groundwater, and Making Other Basin Plan Updates

Public Workshop

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) will hold a public workshop to provide information and receive public input on a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan).¹ The proposed Basin Plan amendment will incorporate the *State Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems*, (OWTS Policy) change nitrate water quality objectives for groundwater basins, and make appropriate updates and non-substantive changes to the Basin Plan. A quorum of Board members may be present at the workshop. The San Diego Water Board will not deliberate or take any action during the workshop.

Workshop Details

Friday, January 23, 2015, 9:30 A.M to 11:30 A.M

San Diego Water Board, Board Meeting Room

2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100; San Diego, California 92108

Background/Project Description

The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses of water bodies, establishes water quality objectives for the protection of these beneficial uses, and outlines a plan of implementation for maintaining and enhancing water quality. The San Diego Water Board is proposing to amend its Basin Plan by making the following revisions:

¹ See Basin Plan on-line at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/index.shtml

1. Revise Chapter 3 (Water Quality Objectives) to establish the water quality objective for nitrate in groundwaters in hydrologic areas/subareas with numeric limits, except the Warner Valley Hydrologic Area, to 45 mg/L as NO₃, which represents the maximum contaminant levels for drinking water. This will impact hydrologic areas/subareas where the numeric limits are currently less than 45 mg/L as NO₃.
2. Revise provisions of Chapter 4 (Implementation) regarding regulation of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems, incorporate the OWTS Policy into the Basin Plan, and make minor corrections to other sections regarding Waste Discharge Requirements.
3. Revise Chapter 4 (Implementation) to add implementation provisions for the nitrate groundwater quality objective to protect surface water quality where groundwater and surface water are interconnected.
4. Revise Chapter 5 (Plans and Policies) to include descriptions of the State Water Board Policies for OWTS (2012) and Recycled Water (2009, as amended in 2013).
5. Delete the expired conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements from the Basin Plan and make other minor non-substantive changes to the Basin Plan.

Document Availability

A draft staff report and proposed Basin Plan amendment language will be made available to the public approximately 30 days prior to the workshop at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego> and via email through electronic mailing lists (see below). A public review period of not less than 45 days will commence at that time. Input received from the public at the workshop and written comments submitted during the review period will be considered by staff in the development of a tentative Basin Plan amendment for consideration by the San Diego Water Board at a later date, most likely in April 2015.

Electronic Mailing List

The documents to be discussed will be sent to those subscribed to the San Diego Water Board's electronic mailing lists for Onsite Waste Treatment Systems, Basin Planning and Board Meetings. Subscription to electronic mailing lists can be done directly at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/req9_subscribe.shtml

Directions and Parking

For directions to the San Diego Water Board office, please refer to: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about_us/contact_us/. Two-hour free parking is available on a first-come first-serve basis, and long term fee parking is available in an adjacent parking structure. The facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. The facility is also accessible via public transit. Persons requiring additional accommodations should contact Ms. Chris Blank at chris.blank@waterboards.ca.gov or (619) 521-3382 at least five (5) days prior to the workshop.

Contact Information

Questions or concerns regarding the Basin Planning process should be directed to Ms. Jody Ebsen at 619-521-3965 or by email at jody.ebsen@waterboards.ca.gov.